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**VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL**

February 7, 2006

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001



**Re: Surface Transportation Board ("STB") Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 405X); BNSF Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Pawnee and Endicott, in Jefferson, Gage, and Pawnee Counties, Nebraska**

Dear Secretary Williams:

On November 12, 2003, BNSF filed a Petition for Exemption seeking authority to abandon and discontinue rail service of 59.23 miles of railroad line extending from railroad milepost 57.80 near Pawnee, Nebraska to railroad milepost 117.03 near Endicott, in Jefferson, Gage, and Pawnee Counties, Nebraska. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 68420, 68323, 68381, 68466, 68310, 68415, 68342, 68352 and 68350.

By decision served March 1, 2004, the STB granted the exemption authority to abandon effective as of March 31, 2004. Within that same decision, the STB stated that the abandonment was to be consummated as of March 1, 2005. Pursuant to STB decision served February 17, 2005, the STB extended the consummation date until December 31, 2005. By decision served December 30, 2005, the STB granted an extension of the consummation date until July 1, 2006.

By letter dated March 9, 2005, BNSF notified the STB that it was consummating that portion of this line between railroad milepost 114.91 and railroad milepost 117.03, effective March 10, 2005. Within that same letter, BNSF advised the STB that it would consummate the remainder of the line in the near future. This letter is to advise you that BNSF is consummating abandonment of the remainder of the subject line as of the date of this letter.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely,

James H. Gallegos

JHG/js

cc: Nebraska Public Service Commission  
Nebraska Department of Roads  
Victoria Rutson, Section of Environmental Analysis, STB  
Peter Rickershauser  
Jerome Johnson  
Sarah Bailiff  
Sidney Strickland  
Richard Batie  
Rail Services Update